



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

August 10, 2006

Richard Roberts
Chief Planner
New Jersey Transit Corporation
One Penn Plaza East
Newark, NJ 07105-2246

Re: STB Docket No. AB-167 (Sub-No. 1185X), Consolidated Rail Corporation
– Abandonment Exemption – in Mercer County, NJ

Dear Mr. Roberts:

The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is conducting an environmental review process for the above abandonment proceeding pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). SEA has been consulting with the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Conrail (the Applicant) regarding this proceeding and has determined that the proposed abandonment will have an adverse effect on two (2) historic properties, the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) eligible Camden and Amboy Railroad Historic District and the National Register listed Windsor Historic District (Washington Township, Mercer County).

SEA has identified the New Jersey Transit Corporation as a potential consulting party pursuant to the Section 106 regulations of NHPA. SEA intends to work with the consulting parties throughout the Section 106 process including the development of a memorandum of agreement (MOA) to stipulate the resolution of adverse effects to identified National Register eligible historic properties. Please inform us if you would like to participate in the Section 106 process for this proceeding.

The following documents are enclosed for your review pursuant to 36 CFR 800.11(e): 1) Conrail's notice of exemption that describes the proposed action and contains information about the rail line; 2) the environmental and historic reports submitted by the railroad; 3) the environmental assessment prepared by SEA; and 4) a July 21, 2006 comment letter from the Deputy SHPO of New Jersey.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this proceeding, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 565-1542.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Glidden', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Catherine Glidden
Environmental Protection Specialist
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosures (4)

Cc (w/out enclosures): Charles Scott, NJ SHPO
John K. Enright, Conrail
Katy Harris, ACHP